

**Virginia OEMS
Communications Committee Meeting
1001 Technology Park Drive
Glen Allen, VA 23059
August 13, 2010
9:00 a.m.**

Members Present: Pokey Harris, Ken Crumpler, Richard Rubino, Connie Purvis

Members attending by Teleconference: None.

OEMS Staff: Wanda Street, Jim Nogle

Guest: Jason Campbell

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to Order:	The Committee Chair, Mrs. Pokey Harris, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.	
Approval of the Minutes dated May 14, 2010:	A motion was made to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was moved by Connie Purvis and seconded by Richard Rubino.	The minutes were approved with no further discussion.
Committee Chair Report (Mrs. Pokey Harris):	<p>The Chair stated that the committee is focusing on core issues such as EMD, interoperability and grants. At the previous meeting, the committee discussed DHS grant funding for portable radios. The Commonwealth of Virginia has received \$18 million in DHS grant funds, but at this time OEMS is not sure if it will receive the \$1.5 million requested. We should know something by late summer. Ken will keep in touch with Amanda Davis on this. Once we know the status of the funds, we can then move forward with the portable radio initiative.</p> <p>Connie asked if re-licensing will need to be done with the new narrowbanding. Richard replied that it would. Connie stated that her equipment has recently been updated. Richard said that the licensing would need to be modified. Per Richard, part of the symposium presentation will cover licensing renewal information.</p> <p>On Monday, Mrs. Harris' regional RPAC-I is having a presentation from the State Police on COMLINK which is Commonwealth's Link to Interoperable Communication.</p>	
OEMS Communications Coordinators Report (Ken Crumpler):	<p>On July 28 Ken had a site visit at Fairfax Public Safety Communications Center for their reaccreditation.</p> <p>Ken has received EMD inquiries from Lynchburg and Martinsville/Henry Co. He has also spoken with the Emergency Manager in King William County.</p> <p>There is a vacancy at CICO for a Commonwealth Interoperability Coordinator position and interviews have been conducted and they hope to fill the position by the end of September. Once the position is</p>	

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	<p>filled, Ken will invite them to have a seat on the committee to fill the vacancy.</p> <p>Speaking of committee members, there are a few people on the committee who have not attended the meetings regularly. Ken will contact them to see if they wish to remain on the committee or step down. Jim recommended that a letter is sent to their agencies to ask for recommended replacements. This committee can have 10 active members. There is not sufficient representation from the Tidewater area.</p> <p>With an increase of grant requests for radio hardware, a short questionnaire consisting of seven questions has been developed. This questionnaire was submitted to the RSAF committee and to the grants manager, Amanda Davis.</p> <p>On the Symposium communications track, the CICO class has been cancelled.</p> <p>Ken attended an RPAC-I meeting in Dinwiddie last week. Ken is working with Bill Webb of VDH to ensure that hospitals and EMS are narrowband compliant.</p> <p>Ken mentioned that the 700 MHz spectrum should be communicated to the agencies that this is still a communications option for them.</p> <p>Ken was contacted by the Crater Criminal Justice Academy and taught the MCI for 911 class to the dispatchers.</p>	<p>Mrs. Harris asked the committee to consider who would best be represented on the committee and report suggestions at the next meeting.</p>
Unfinished Business:	None.	
New Business:	<p>a. Advisory Board member Jason Campbell – Emergency Medical Dispatch</p> <p>Jason wanted to discuss making the EMD a mandate for Public Service Answering Points (PSAP). Ken explained that the Office of EMS has no authority to mandate any PSAP to have EMD. The PSAPs are under the authority of their local jurisdictions. The Office of EMS encourages EMD and will continue to do so. Jason wants to have the Chair of this committee talk with the Finance, Legislative and Planning Committee and put this on the legislative agenda for the Board of Health. Mrs. Harris stated that 53% of the localities are EMD accredited. There are two grant programs that helps with this; one is through VITA and the other through 911. EMD is a priority at OEMS. Jason stated that the Dept. of Justice also has a grant program for dispatchers. Pokey will verify this information. Mrs. Harris will talk with Dr. Lindbeck and Dr. Yee about creating a white paper and she will also discuss this with the Chair of the FLAP Committee, Mr. Dalton. Per Mrs. Harris, Jason has full support from this committee because she is very passionate about EMD. A workgroup will be formed consisting of Connie Purvis and Richard Rubino to work with Jason on the EMD legislative initiative. Ken suggested that Randy Krantz be included in the initiative also.</p>	

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	<p>b. Paul Hoppes – FCC Regulations Update No update. Paul was not present.</p> <p>c. OEMS Staff – Division Report (Open) Jim reported that Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association (VHHA) is currently gathering information on all helipad sizes at the hospitals and will forward the information to OEMS to be included in the Communications Manual.</p> <p>While discussing matters concerning the Boy Scout Jamboree, it was discovered that additional radio caches are available from the Dept. of Fire Programs (DFP) should an emergency occur. Also, a DFP trailer and the Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management (VDEM) antenna trailer were used in coordination with the Jamboree.</p> <p>Richard Rubino mentioned that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) had some information on their website yesterday about new rules for notification for antenna towers effective January 2011. The localities need to be notified of this.</p>	
Open Discussion:	None.	
Public Comment:	None.	
Adjournment:	<p>The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.</p> <p>The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 12 at the Norfolk Waterside Marriott at the 31st Annual EMS Symposium.</p>	